

#### IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pneumatic tire, comprising:  
a carcass layer bridged between a pair of bead portions; and  
a convex mark provided on a surface of a sidewall portion and having a shape resembling at least one of a letter, a numeral, a symbol and an emblem,

wherein a concave portion adjacent to said convex mark is provided on the surface of said sidewall portion, and a ratio of a volume  $v$  of the concave portion to a volume  $V$  of said convex mark is set as:

$$0.8V=v=1.2V_1$$

the concave portion adjoining one of an entire inner periphery of the convex mark, an entire outer periphery of the convex mark and partially the inner periphery and partially the outer periphery of the convex mark such that the concave portion resembles the shape of the convex mark.

2. (ORIGINAL) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion is provided along said convex mark.

3. (ORIGINAL) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion is provided on an entire region of a plurality of convex marks spaced from one to another.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pneumatic tire, comprising:  
a carcass layer bridged between a pair of bead portions; and  
a concave mark provided on a surface of a sidewall portion and having a shape resembling at least one of a letter, a numeral, a symbol and an emblem,

wherein a convex portion adjacent to said concave mark is provided on the surface of said sidewall portion, and a ratio of a volume  $w$  of the convex portion to a volume  $W$  of said concave mark is set as:

$$0.8W=w=1.2W_1$$

the convex portion adjoining one of an entire inner periphery of the concave mark, an entire outer periphery of the concave mark and partially the inner

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periphery and partially the outer periphery of the concave mark such that the convex portion resembles the shape of the concave mark.

5. (ORIGINAL) The pneumatic tire according to claim 4, wherein said convex portion is provided along said concave mark.

6. (ORIGINAL) The pneumatic tire according to claim 4, wherein said convex portion is provided on an entire region of a plurality of concave marks spaced from one to another.

7. (NEW) Indicia formed on a pneumatic tire having a sidewall portion defining a sidewall surface and formed with a carcass layer bridged between a pair of bead portions, the indicia comprising:

a plurality of convex marks projecting outwardly from the sidewall surface to occupy a volume  $V$  above the sidewall surface, each one of the plurality of convex marks having a shape resembling at least one of a letter, a numeral, a symbol and an emblem; and

a concave region extending into the sidewall portion thereby displacing a volume  $v$  of the sidewall portion and surrounding the plurality of convex marks, wherein a ratio of the volume  $v$  of the concave region to the volume  $V$  of said plurality of convex marks is set as:

$0.8V=v=1.2V$ .